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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC #02256-85
30 April 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Vice Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM: 25X1
Acting National Intelligence Officer for East Asia

SUBJECT: Vietnamese Forces in Cambodia

1. You should know that some significant differences have recently arisen within the Intelligence Community as to the number of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia. This question may arise during your Southeast Asia trip.

2. The generally accepted figure continues to be 150,000-170,000. However, DIA/DB is now arguing that this is a significant overestimate, and that the actual number is at least 40,000 less, or about 108,000-124,000. Moreover, DIA/DB has recently cabled the field, without coordination, this new figure, intimating that their estimate is the Community's estimate.

3. To begin resolving this issue, I called a meeting of representatives of various concerned agencies this morning (April 30). That meeting:

- Agreed that there are 11 Vietnamese divisions in Cambodia and that Vietnamese capabilities there remain about what they have been.

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- Disagreed sharply, however, over the strength of these 11 Vietnamese divisions. Even other elements of DIA are not yet ready to accept DIA/DB's new figures until further analysis is done.
- Agreed that this matter necessitates thorough additional study and the early completion of an IIM, which will reexamine both the methodology and the numbers. We are so proceeding.



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